

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JAKART 17098 211015Z

ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 HA-05 /035 W

-----114163 211136Z /11

R 210936Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5698

INFO AMCONSUL MEDAN

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SHUM, ID

SUBJECT: PRESS COVERAGE OF DETAINEE RELEASES

REF: A) JAKARTA 17020; B) MEDAN 0498; C) JAKARTA 17054

1. JAKARTA NEWSPAPERS GAVE WIDE COVERAGE TO RELEASE OF 10,000 CLASS B DETAINEES DECEMBER 20. THE EVENT WAS HEAD-LINED BY ALL PAPERS, AND MOST HAD FRONT PAGE PHOTOS TAKEN AT VARIOUS RELEASE CEREMONIES SHOWING RELEASEES TAKING OATHS TO BE LOYAL TO THE GOVERNMENT OR CHATTING WITH FOREIGN OBSERVERS.

2. GOVERNMENT NEWS AGENCY ANTARA PUBLISHED ACCOUNTS OF RELEASE CEREMONIES IN SIX LOCATIONS WHERE A TOTAL OF 2991 PERSONS WERE RELEASED (FROM TOTAL OF 21 LOCATIONS FOR ENTIRE 10,000). THESE INCLUDED 21 IN NORTH JAKARTA; 66 IN BANDUNG; 886 IN NORTH SUMATRA- 20 OF WHOM CHOSE TO GO TO A RESETTLEMENT CENTER; 97 IN SEMARANG, CENTRAL JAVA; 421 FROM SOUTH AND CENTRAL KALIMANTAN IN BANJARMASIN-331 OF WHOM OPTED FOR RESETTLEMENT CENTERS; AND 1500 ON BURU ISLAND, WHO DEPARTED BY SHIP FOR SURABAYA WHERE THEY ARE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE DEC. 25 OR 26 FOR ONWARD TRAVEL TO HOME

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DISTRICTS IN JAVA.

3. THE ANTARA ACCOUNTS INCLUDED A FEW NAMES OF PROMINENT RELEASEES IN ADDITION TO THOSE REPORTED IN REF A: IN BANJARMASIN, DRS. MUSA KADRIMAN, DRS. TIO KHENG KIAUW (BOTH FORMER LECTURERS AT LAMBUNG MANGKURAT UNIVERSITY) AND DRS. GULTOM (FORMER HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER); ON BURU,

PROF. DR. SUPRAPTO, PROF. ISKANDAR SALEH PURADISASTERA (BUYUNG SALEH), FORMER NEWS REPORTERS TOM ANWAR (BINTANG TIMUR) AND KRIS HUTABARAT (EKONOMI NASIONAL), FORMER MOVIE DIRECTOR BACHTIAR SIAGIAN, FORMER ASSISTANT TO THE MINISTER OF SEA COMMUNICATIONS, ABDURACHMAN ATMOSUDIRDJO, TOPOGRAPHER FERDINAND RUNTURAMBI AND COMPOSER SUBBRONTO KUSUMOATMODJO.

4. LEGAL AID SOCIETY HEAD BUYUNG NASUTION ISSUED A STATEMENT FOLLOWING THE RELEASES NOTING THAT THIS ACTION SHOWS THE RESPECT OF INDONESIA FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND URGING INDONESIANS TO WELCOME THE RELEASEES BACK INTO SOCIETY. HE ADDED THAT THE REST OF THE POLITICAL DETAINEES IN INDONESIA SHOULD ALSO BE RELEASED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

5. COMMENT: THE CONTINUING ACCUMULATION OF DETAILS IN THE PRESS OF THIS RELEASE PRESENTS A PICTURE OF A VAST AND VARIED OPERATION BEING CARRIED OUT ACROSS THE NATION, NOT ALWAYS UNIFORM IN STYLE OR TECHNIQUE, BUT CONSCIENTIOUSLY AIMED AT RETURNING THE 10,000 RELEASEES TO SOCIETY WITHIN THE SPACE OF A FEW DAYS, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE UNEASINESS OF LARGE SECTIONS OF THE INDONESIAN PUBLIC REGARDING THE RELEASES, THE FORMER DETAINEES ARE BEING PORTRAYED AS FELLOW CITIZENS WHO HAVE MADE A MISTAKE, PAID THE PRICE, AND HAVE SEEN THE ERROR OF THEIR WAYS.

MASTERS

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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